

**UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 80TH SESSION
FIRST COMMITTEE**

THEMATIC DEBATE ON REGIONAL DISARMAMENT AND SECURITY

STATEMENT BY THE UNITED KINGDOM

XXX, XXX

New York, XX October 2025

Chair,

As the ICRC reminded us during the work of this Committee, over 130 conflicts are raging today, twice as many as 15 years ago, making this debate ever more important. The UK supports and encourages all UN Member States to keep working on feasible measures to improve security within their regions.

In Europe, Putin's war of aggression against Ukraine remains an egregious violation of the UN Charter that profoundly challenges the international order on which our prosperity and security depend. Russia's unacceptable airspace violations in Estonia, Poland and Romania further demonstrate this.

Russia's control and militarisation of Ukraine's Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant continue to pose a significant risk of a nuclear incident. We once again call on Russia to withdraw and return the plant to the Ukrainian authorities.

We thank the United States, Türkiye, Qatar & Egypt for their tireless diplomatic efforts to secure a peace plan for Gaza. As outlined by my Prime Minister on the 9th of October, a Two-State Solution continues to be the only viable option for durable peace. The UK urges all parties to engage constructively to fulfil their commitments without delay.

Chair,

Long-term peace and security in the Middle East cannot be achieved without addressing Iran's destabilising activity. Iran's nuclear programme poses a serious threat to regional and international security. We condemn Iran's military support for its proxies including Hamas, Hezbollah and the Houthis, as well as Iran's well documented transfers of UAVs and Ballistic Missiles to Russia. We urge all states to comply with the multiple reinstated UN Security Council resolutions on Iran. We call on Iran to cease its disruptive activities and engage meaningfully in diplomatic efforts to address international concerns.

In Asia, the DPRK's illegitimate nuclear and ballistic missile programmes violate UN Security Council Resolutions and challenge the international community's non-proliferation objectives and the peace and security of the region. We also condemn DPRK's pursuit of military satellite capabilities.

Chair,

The UK reiterates that de-escalation, protection of civilians, and respect for the UN Charter must guide us. We remain confident that sustained, collective diplomacy can deliver progress in pursuit of a safer and more peaceful world.

Thank you.

* * *